For The Period July 1, 2011 Through June 30, 2012



## ADAM H. EDELEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS www.auditor.ky.gov

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### ADAM H. EDELEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

September 4, 2013

Reecie Stagnolia, Vice President Kentucky Adult Education Council on Postsecondary Education 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250 Frankfort, KY 40601

Randall Jackson, Superintendent Allen County Board of Education 570 Oliver Street Scottsville, KY 42164

Re: Adult Education Grants

Dear Mr. Stagnolia and Mr. Jackson:

This report contains the results of the performance audit of Allen County Board of Education's administration of the adult education grant for the fiscal year (FY) ending June 30, 2012. The Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Adult Education contracted with this office to conduct performance audits of selected local adult education programs. This report presents our findings, recommendations, and the program's responses.

The Auditor of Public Accounts conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

We greatly appreciate the courtesies and cooperation extended to our staff during the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam H./Edelen

Auditor of Public Accounts

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) and Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) selected the Allen County adult education program for a limited scope performance audit of its adult education grant. The Allen County Board of Education was responsible for the administration of this grant in FY 2012. An on-site review was conducted on April 29, 2013 through April 30, 2013, to address the following objectives:

- Determine whether KYAE payments to local programs are supported by the program's accounting system.
- Reconcile student and faculty data electronically submitted to KYAE through the Adult Education Reporting Information Network (AERIN) with the information retained by the local provider.
- Determine whether the program's expenditures reported to KYAE via AERIN's Finance Module comply with the terms of their grant agreement and are supported by adequate documentation.
- Report internal control weaknesses identified during our audit that relate to the audit's objectives.

To accomplish these objectives, the performance audit team reviewed the Policy and Procedure Manual for Kentucky Adult Education, as well as the local program's agreement with KYAE. During the on-site review, the audit team reviewed the program's accounting records (trial balance/general ledger), interviewed program administrators regarding internal controls related to the above grants, and tested samples of expenditure documentation, participant files, and personnel files for compliance with applicable requirements.

Below is the summary of findings:

#### FINDINGS SUMMARY

Finding	Disallowed
1 mumg	Costs
The cost category, Instructional Other, had a variance of \$809 that was	
requested from KYAE but not supported by the program's accounting	
records. The KYAE Finance Module identified expenditures of \$1,897,	\$809
but the program's accounting records supported expenditures of only	
\$1,088.	

#### RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### FINANCIAL REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE

#### **Scope and Methodology**

The annual expenditures for which the program requested reimbursement through the KYAE Finance Module were compared to the line item budget approved by KYAE. This comparison was used to determine whether the program's reimbursements complied with the approved budget.

The annual expenditures for which KYAE reimbursed the program were then compared to the program's internally generated financial records. This comparison was used to determine whether the program's accounting records support the total amount requested for reimbursement using the KYAE Finance Module.

#### **Findings**

The cost category, Instructional Other, had a variance of \$809 that was requested from KYAE but not supported by the program's accounting records. The KYAE Finance Module identified expenditures of \$1,897, but the program's accounting records supported expenditures of only \$1,088. Because the program's accounting records for Instructional Personnel supported expenditures that were \$914 more than the amount requested from KYAE, the variances in the cost categories offset each other. Therefore, in total, the program's accounting records did support the amount requested through the KYAE Finance Module but not within the Instructional Other category.

#### **Recommendations**

We recommend that MUNIS accounts agree with the KYAE cost categories to facilitate a reconciliation. The program should reconcile the amounts reimbursed by KYAE to their accounting records each month. This reconciliation should be conducted within each of the cost categories as well as in aggregate. Because \$809 in Instructional Other was not supported by the program's accounting records, this amount is considered disallowable and should be refunded to KYAE unless a resolution is reached.

#### **Program Response**

The only explanation that could be determined was that when the final payroll that year was calculated automatically, the amounts were pulled from the project total. A check has been issued in the amount of \$809 and has been returned to KYAE.

#### PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY AND RECORD KEEPING

#### **Scope and Methodology**

To ensure an unbiased representation of the population, an automated process was used to randomly select 60 participants from the data provided by KYAE. The total population of participants was stratified so that the participants selected had achieved at least one type of academic goal. With this stratification, the auditors were able to test whether the required support was documented and maintained for all of the selected participants.

The sample size was based on the determination to test 20 percent of the program's total participants, not to exceed 60. The participants tested received services during the period from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

The documentation maintained in the participant files was compared to the electronic student data to test compliance. We examined the files for the following:

- Proper eligibility documentation.
- Proper assessment testing.
- Evidence to support the achievement of goals/objectives reported to KYAE.
- Other requirements based upon the applicable program requirements.

The results of the test apply only to the selected sample and should not be projected to the entire population because the criteria tested may not be applicable to each participant.

#### **Findings**

No exceptions were noted.

#### **EMPLOYEE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Scope and Methodology**

The eight staff members employed by this program during the audit period were tested for compliance with KYAE personnel requirements. Personnel files were examined to verify that staff conducting work related to the adult education grant had the proper educational credentials required for their position.

#### **Findings**

No exceptions were noted.

#### PURCHASING/EXPENDITURE COMPLIANCE

#### **Scope and Methodology**

To test at least 20 percent of the total purchases, a sample of six expenditures was selected judgmentally from the program's detailed general ledger. These transactions were maintained at the program level and not available in an electronic format that would allow for an automated selection process. The selected expenditures were tested for authorization/approval, supporting documentation, and proper recording. We also verified that the expenditures were made during the grant period from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Because this was a judgmental sample, the results of the test cannot be projected to the entire population.

#### **Findings**

No exceptions were noted.

#### INTERNAL CONTROLS RELATING TO GRANT

#### **Scope and Methodology**

Internal Control Questionnaires were provided to program management regarding the controls in place for expenditures, bank reconciliations, revenue, and payroll. The completed questionnaires were reviewed by the audit team for any significant control deficiencies.

#### **Findings**

No significant control deficiencies were noted.